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**Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/902,153	07/29/97	HASHIMOTO	826.1410/JDH

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LM01/0623

EXAMINER	
BHATTACHARYA, S	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2745

DATE MAILED: 06/23/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

*Please see attached.*

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**08/902,153**

Applicant(s)  
**Hashimoto**

Examiner  
**Sam Bhattacharya**

Group Art Unit  
**2745**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 28, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-13, and 15-27 is/are rejected.

☒ Claim(s) 5 and 14 is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4 and 5

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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**DETAILED ACTION**

***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-13 and 15-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mansell et al. (US 5,223,844).

Regarding **claims 1, 2, 10 and 11**, Mansell et al. disclose a vehicle tracking and position information management system (Fig. 1) wherein information from a GPS positioning system is acquired in information terminals shown as mobile units 100B-100D and is processed in a central system shown as control center 150 so as

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to manage information on a position of the information terminal. Mansell et al. fail to specifically disclose the limitation of changing over to an available positioning when one system is unavailable.

However, Official notice is taken that it is well known in the art that mobile units can be equipped with odometers and compasses which together function as an alternative position system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Mansell et al. by using an existing "built-in" positioning system as an alternative system when the GPS system is unavailable.

Regarding **claims 3, 4, 12 and 13**, Mansell et al. already disclose a third party such as any one of mobile units 100B-100D that can acquire the position of a holder of said information terminal through the central system.

Regarding **claims 6-9 and 15-18**, Mansell et al. already disclose map data in Fig. 11 which is downloaded from the central control center 150 and can be stored on an IC card for a certain period of time if desired, and which contains the current position of said information terminal and a position of the destination.

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Regarding **claim 19**, Mansell et al. already disclose information terminals 100B-100D which are portable telephones with antennas.

Regarding **claim 20**, Mansell et al. already disclose the limitation of obtaining current position information means for transmitting the position information obtained by said position information acquisition means, to another equipment to another equipment such as police 160.

**Claims 21 and 22** are incorporated by the limitations of claims 6 and 20 and are therefore analyzed as discussed with respect to claims 6 and 20.

**Claim 23** is incorporated by the limitations of claims 3 and 20 and is therefore analyzed as discussed with respect to claims 3 and 20.

**Claims 24 and 25** are incorporated by the limitations of claim 3 and furthermore recite the limitation of registering the current position of the terminal, which Mansell et al. already disclose in Fig. 11.

**Claims 26 and 27** are incorporated by the limitations of claims 6 and 24 are therefore analyzed as discussed with respect to claims 6 and 24.

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***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. **Claims 5 and 14** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record fails to disclose a position information management system wherein a movement of the current position of the holder of said information terminal is supervised, and when said holder of said information terminal has not moved from an identical site for a predetermined time period, an alarm is raised upon a judgement that an unusual situation has occurred to said holder as required by claims 5 and 14.

***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Branch et al. (US 5,760,742) disclose an integrated mobile GPS with wireless messaging capability (see Fig. 1A).

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Wortham (US 5,832,394) discloses vehicle location and communicating method (see Fig. 4).

Croyle et al. (US 5,862,511) disclose a vehicle navigation system and method (col. 2, lines 32-55).

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 305-9051, (for formal communications  
intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 305-9508, (for informal or draft  
communications, please label "PROPOSED" or  
"DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal  
Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth  
Floor (Receptionist).


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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Bhattacharya whose telephone number is (703) 305-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

SB:sb

June 20, 1999

  
6/21/99  
**NGUYEN VO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**